

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 NEA-10 DHA-02 CU-04

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COME-00 AID-05 IGA-02 ARA-10 ABF-01 /149 W

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1776

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HELSINKI 1854

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, SHUM, PARM, FI, XZ

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REPRESENTATIVES OF NORDIC

FOREIGN MINISTRIES MET IN HELSINKI TO PREPARE FOR NORDIC

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

1. SUMMARY. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE FIVE NORDIC COUNTRIES MET IN HELSINKI AUGUST 15 TO PREPARE FOR THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 1-2, ALSO IN HELSINKI. A FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL GAVE THE EMBASSY A RUNDOWN OF THE MOST IMPORTANT POINTS COVERED AT THE AUGUST 15 MEETING. HE INDICATED THAT THE MAJOR ITEMS DSCUSSSED FOR PROBABLE INCLUSION IN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING COMMUNIQUE WERE: SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, HUMAN RIGHTS, CSCE, DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL, LAW OF THE SEA, NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, AND UN PEACEKEEPING. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS THE FINNISH OFFICIAL'S VERSION OF
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WHAT TRANSPIRED AT THE MEETING AND WHAT MAJOR ITEMS MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNIQUE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FINNISH MFA OFFICIAL, WHO REPRESENTED THE FINNISH MFA AT THE AUGUST 15 MEETING, SAID THE PARTICIPANTS FOCUSED ON THE PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED AT THE CONSLUSION

OF THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT SEVERAL IMPORTANT ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ARE STILL UNDER ACTIVE CONSULTATION AMONG THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTRIES. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WILL BE WORKED OUT BY A DRAFTING COMMITTEE AT THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE. THE FINN GAVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE MAJOR POINTS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING:

3. SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES - THESE ISSUES RECEIVED MORE ATTENTION AT THE AUGUST 15 MEETING THAN ANY OTHER. CONCERNING THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND APARTHEID, COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE WILL BE LEFT OPEN UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE LAGOS ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE. THE SWEDISH MFA REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETING REPORTEDLY PROPOSED INCLUDING IN THE COMMUNIQUE'S SECTION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AN APPEAL FOR THE WITHHOLDING OF NEW FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE NO OTHER REFERENCES TO ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WERE PROPOSED AT THE MEETING, THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF NORDIC TRADE UNIONS CONCERNING POSSIBLE ACTIONS TO DISCOURAGE TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WITH RESPECT TO NAMIBIA, THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE REPORTEDLY CONTAINS A STRONG DEMAND FOR SOUTH AFRICAN COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ON NAMIBIA. AT FINNISH INITIATIVE, THERE APPARENTLY

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WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNIQUE A GENERAL NORDIC COMMITMENT TO ASSIST FINANCIALLY THE DEVELOPMENT OF NAMIBIA. THE FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT THE RHODESIA ISSUE RECEIVED LESS SPECIFIC ATTENTION AT THE AUGUST 15 MEETING THAN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA. JUDGING FROM THE FINN'S ACCOUNT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE AT LEAST AS MUCH ATTENTION IN THE 1977 NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' COMMUNIQUE AS LAST YEAR'S 5-POINT STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

4. MIDDLE EAST - THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT COMMUNIQUE CONTAINS LANGUAGE SIMILAR IN MOST RESPECTS TO THAT USED IN LAST YEAR'S FOREIGN MINISTERS' COMMUNIQUE (I.E. A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION BASED ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, INADMISSABILITY OF ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY BY FORCE, RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY OF ALL STATES, AND THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES). HOWEVER, WHEREAS LAST YEAR'S COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO RECOGNITION OF THE LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS, THIS YEAR IT IS REPORTEDLY PROPOSED THAT THERE BE A DIRECT

REFERENCE FAVORING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN
"HOMELAND."

5. HUMAN RIGHTS - THE SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE IS
REPORTED TO HAVE URGED THE INCLUSION OF A STRONG HUMAN
RIGHTS STATEMENT IN THE COMMUNIQUE. HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD
BE CAREFULLY DEFINED TO INCLUDE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
RIGHTS. SWEDEN REPORTEDLY WANTS A COMMUNIQUE REFERENCE
TO THE NEED FOR A UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER. THE
FINNS INDICATED THEIR INTEREST THAT HUMAN RIGHTS PHRASING IN THE
COMMUNIQUE NOT CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHEREAST/WEST FRICTION
ON THIS SUBJECT. SENTIMENT WAS EXPRESSED AT THE MEETING
FOR INCLUDING SPECIFIC CRITICISM OF THE CHILEAN GOVERN-
MENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS.
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6. CSCE - THE FINNS TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING
THAT THE COMMUNIQUE EXPRESS SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS
OF THE BELGRADE CSCE PREPARATORY MEETING AND HOPE FOR A
CONSTRUCTIVE FALL MEETING.

7. DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL - FINLAND SUBMITTED A
DRAFT ADDRESSING IMPORTANT DISARMAMENTS ISSUES, INCLUD-
ING THE SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, CHEMICAL
WARFARE AND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION. DETAILS CON-
CERNING THE FINNISH PROPOSAL WERE NOT MADE AVAILABLE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 HELSINKI 1854

8. LAW OF THE SEA - THE FINNISH MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT ICELAND WAS GIVEN THE TASK OF DEVELOPING A COMMUNIQUE PARAGRAPH ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, BUT HE HAD NO DETAILS TO OFFER.

9. NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES- THE FINN THOUGHT THE REFERENCE IN THE COMMUNIQUE TO NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES WOULD NOT CONTAIN ANYTHING NEW.

10. UN PEACEKEEPING - FINLAND EXPRESSED ITS GROWING CONCERN OVER THE CONTINUED INADEQUACY OF PEACEKEEPING FINANCING AND APPARENTLY INDICATED THAT IT IS INCREASINGLY LIKELY FINLAND WILL WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM CYPRUS IF NO SOLUTION TO THE FINANCING ISSUE IS REACHED. (HOWEVER, THE MFA OFFICIAL TOLD THE EMBASSY THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT HAS NOT REACHED A DECISION ON THIS MATTER AS YET.) THE FINNS APPARENTLY WANT THE COMMUNIQUE TO ADDRESS A GENERAL APPEAL TO OTHER COUNTRIES TO STEP
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UP THEIR PEACEKEEPING CONTRIBUTIONS.
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Message Attributes

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